



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Office of Public Affairs, 377th Air Base Wing, 2000 Wyoming Blvd. S.E.
Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico 87117-5606, (505) 846-5991/7019. DSN 246-5991
E-Mail address: pam@commgate.kirtland.af.mil

Base bike helmet giveaway a 'huge success'

Aug. 15, 1997
97-08-03

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – The Health and Wellness Center and the 377th Air Base Wing Safety Office recently gave away more than 650 bicycle helmets and safety packages to kids of military members stationed here.

According to Capt. Carole Robbins, director of the HAWC, "The money for the helmets was obtained from a special request to the Air Force by Kirtland HAWC which was approved by the Air Force Surgeon General."

Each year, nearly 1,000 people die from injuries caused by bicycle crashes, and 550,000 people are treated in emergency departments for injuries related to bicycle riding. Head injuries account for 62 percent of bicycle-related deaths, for 33 percent



Staff Sgt. David Nunn and Capt. Carole Robbins hand out the new helmets.

of bicycle-related E.D. visits, and for 67 percent of bicycle-related hospital admissions. Approximately 80 - 90 percent of children own a bicycle by the time they are in second grade.

-30-

Note to editors: For more information, contact Senior Airman Paul Gritton, (505) 846-4238/5991.U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Rodney Wells. The image can be found at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil/pa/images/helmet.jpg>

